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State-CIA relationship in NIS Program

From the inception of the NIS Program in 1948 the Department of State has been a major participant. with CIA and the Defense agencies represented on the permanent NIS Committee, in the joint development of the substantive and procedural aspects of the program and in the production of contributions to the NIS.

Since the start of NIS production the Bureau of Intelligence and Research (or functional predecessors) has, in accordance with agreed allocation of production responsibility, annually and cumulatively made State the USIB agency with the largest commitment for and production of topical units for the NIS on a world-wide basis. The total of State-produced and State-coordinated topical sections has approximated 39% of the more than 5, 200 NIS sections produced to date.

The Bureau of Intelligence and Research is responsible, by its own production and to a considerably less extent by coordinating contributions by other agencies, for virtually all NIS topical sections of Chapters IV (Sociological), Chapters V (Political), and non-Bloc Chapters VI (Economic). This responsibility includes coordination and production of the special biographic intelligence components and International Communism of the NIS.

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The CIA for some time has taken the position that, in terms of NIS production by State, the reduction in staff could be significantly offset by discontinuing the pattern of diversion of NIS staff to other activities, and that NIS coverage of such areas as the Middle East and Africa could be significantly improved by actual re-alignment of the regional staffing within the Bureau of Intelligence and Research.

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